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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 09/922,837 | 08/07/2001 | Tomotoshi Sato | 210263US-2 | 8604 |
| 22850 | 7590 | 07/12/2007 | | |
| OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 | | | EXAMINER TRUONG, LAN DAI T | |
| | | | ART UNIT 2152 | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | NOTIFICATION DATE 07/12/2007 | DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/922,837

Applicant(s)

SATO, TOMOTOSHI

Examiner

Lan-Dai Thi Truong

Art Unit

2152

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-11,13-28 and 30-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-11,13-28 and 30-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is response to communications: application, filed on 02/21/2001; amendment filed 04/06/2007. Claims 1, 3-11, 13-28, 30-36 are pending; claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13, 16, 21-25, 28 are amended; claims 2, 12, 29, 37-40 are canceled

2. The applicant's arguments filed on 04/06/2007 have fully considered, but the new scope of amended claims are moot in view with new ground for rejections

Claim rejections-35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1, 9, 11, 14, 28, 30, 33, 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Denman et al. (U.S. 6,745,240), "Denman", herein after.

Regarding claim 1:

Denman discloses a peripheral device configured to be connected to a plurality of other peripheral devices via a network, said peripheral device comprising:

Mean for managing the plurality of other peripheral devices and said peripheral device:
(Denamn discloses the coordinator node parallel configures a group of nodes and it's self i.e. reset/ and initialization/ and control the TPA selection process: figure 1; abstract; column 3, lines 46-60; column 4, lines 1-15)

Means provided in said peripheral device for selecting a managing peripheral device to manage the plurality of other peripheral devices and said peripheral device: (In Denamn's configuration system, each node of the group is capable to select "a coordinator node" which shares functionality with "a managing peripheral device" to manage the plurality of other "non-coordinator nodes" those are equivalent to "other peripheral devices" as claimed; also the coordinator node is capable to control itself such as reset/ and initialization/ and control the TPA selection process: figure 1; abstract; column 3, lines 46-60; column 4, lines 1-15)

Wherein the managing peripheral device is selected by said means for selecting out of a group including the plurality of other peripheral devices and said peripheral device: (as similar to the rejection to the limitation above, in Denamn's configuration system, each node of the group is capable to select "a coordinator node" which shares functionality with "a managing peripheral device" to manage the plurality of other "non- coordinator nodes": figure 1; abstract)

Regarding claim 28:

In addition to rejection in claim 1, Denamn further discloses first computer code device and second computer code device: ("the coordinator node" is interpreted as "the first computer code device" as claimed, and "the other non-coordinator nodes" as interpreted as "the second computer code device": figure 1; abstract; column 3, lines 46-60; column 4, lines 1-15)

Regarding claim 33:

In addition to rejection in claim 28, Denman-Hoyer further discloses receiving connection requests from the other peripheral devices: (this figure inherently included in Denman-Hoyer's system)

Regarding claim 35:

This claim is rejected under rationale of claims 28 and 34

Regarding claims 9, 11, 14 and 30:

Those claims are rejected under rationale of claim 1

Claim rejections-35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3-8, 10, 13, 15- 27, 31-32, 34, 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Denman in view of and Hoyer et al (U.S. 6,381,635)

Regarding claim 21:

Denman discloses the invention substantially as disclosed in claim 1, but does not explicitly teach setting URLs default of web servers

In analogous art, Hoyer disclose network configuration system; wherein each node in the group being assigned with URL, see (figure 2, 3, and 4)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Hoyer's ideas of assigning URL for each node in the group into Denman's system in order to employ well-known technique into Denman for saving development time purpose, and further for increasing flexibilities, efficiencies for managing system such as expanding services over Internet network, see (Hoyer: figure 1; column 9, lines 55-65)

Regarding claims 5, 15, 22 and 31:

In addition to rejection in claims 3, 14; 21 and 30, Denman-Hoyer further discloses disabling: (Hoyer discloses cluster manager is capable to enabling or disabling devices: column 7, lines 65-67; column 8, lines 1-16)

Regarding claim 6:

In addition to rejection in claim 3, Denman-Hoyer further discloses sending information: (Hoyer: figure 7)

Regarding claims 7, 19 and 26:

In addition to rejection in claims 3, 14 and 21, Denman-Hoyer further discloses printing: (Denman: column 4, lines 40-51)

Regarding claims 8, 20, 27 and 36:

In addition to rejection in claims 3, 13 and 21, Denman-Hoyer further discloses comparing a characteristic for each of the plurality of other peripheral devices and said peripheral device: (Denman discloses technique of selecting a coordinator based on comparison results: column 6, lines 66-67; column 7, lines 1-41)

Regarding claims 17, 24 and 34:

In addition to rejection in claims 3, 21 and 28, Denman-Hoyer further discloses receiving information from other peripheral devices: (Denman: column 6, lines 66-67; column 7, lines 1-41)

Regarding claim 23:

In addition to rejection in claim 21, Denman-Hoyer further discloses receiving connection requests from the other peripheral devices: (this figure inherently included in Denman-Hoyer's system)

Regarding claims 3, 10, and 13, 16, 18, 25, 32:

Those claims are rejected under rationale of claim 21

Regarding claim 4:

This claim is rejected under rationale of claim 1

The prior arts made of records and not relied upon are considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents and publications are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to " PERIPHERAL DEVICE WITH A CENTRALIZED MANAGEMENT SERVER, AND SYSTEM, COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT AND METHOD FOR MANAGING PERIPHERAL DEVICES CONNECTED TO A NETWORK": 6507865; 6725264; 6993587; 6801949; 5237693;

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Conclusions

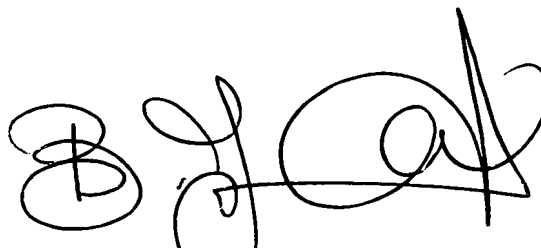
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lan-Dai Thi Truong whose telephone number is 571-272-7959. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday from 8:30am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob A. Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2152

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

07/05/2007



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
7/6/7